Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations Meeting Minutes December 19, 2012

A meeting of the Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations (the JLC) was held on December 19, 2012, at the American Legion Building, 1708 Commonwealth Avenue, Richmond.

Members Present

- George Coker, American Ex-POWs
- Brett Reistad, American Legion
- Bruce Brown, AMVETS
- Don Kaiserman, Association of the United States Army
- Abe Zino, Fleet Reserve Association
- James Jones, Korean War Veterans Association
- Bruce Steeley, Marine Corps League
- Raymond Edwards, Military Officers Association of America
- Robert Fairchild, Military Order of the Purple Heart
- Thomas Moran, National Association for Uniformed Services
- Matthew Dailey, Non Commissioned Officers Association
- David Coffield, Paralyzed Veterans of America
- Carmen Gentile, Reserve Officers Association
- George Corbett, Vietnam Veterans of America
- Jenny Holbert, Women Marines Association
- Thad Jones, Chairman, Board of Veterans Services
- Jack Hilgers, representing the Veterans Services Foundation
- Paul Galanti, Commissioner of Veterans Services

Members Absent

- Jeffrey Platte, Air Force Association
- David Martinez, Disabled American Veterans
- Roger Dimsdale, Legion of Valor
- William Townsley, Military Order of the World Wars
- Frank Driscoll, Navy Seabee Veterans of America
- Nolan Jackson, Roanoke Valley Veterans Council
- Daniel Boyer, Veterans of Foreign Wars
- Michael Coleman, Virginia National Guard Association

Alternates Present (representing their VSO)

- Harold Barton, Air Force Association
- Allan McCroskey, Disabled American Veterans
- Richard Rinaldo, Legion of Valor

- Jim Clem, Roanoke Valley Veterans Council
- Tom Gimble, Veterans of Foreign Wars
- John Velleca, Virginia National Guard Association

Alternates Present (not representing their VSO)

• Stu Williams, Military Officers Association of America

Commonwealth of Virginia Officials Present

- Cindy Norwood, Office of the Attorney General
- Al Pianalto, Office of Delegate Kirk Cox
- Jim Hopper, Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security and Veterans Affairs
- John Anderson, Department of Veterans Services
- Anne Atkins, Department of Veterans Services
- Steven Combs, Department of Veterans Services
- Jon Hatfield, Department of Veterans Services
- Judy Reid, Department of Veterans Services
- Jim Thur, Department of Veterans Services
- Danielle Weaver, Department of Veterans Services
- Jason Williams, Department of Veterans Services

Others Present

- Joe Barto, TMG, Inc.
- Bob Huffman, Virginia National Guard Enlisted Association
- Ed Brenner, Housing Our Military and Elderly Disabled project
- Karen Easley, Housing Our Military and Elderly Disabled project
- Dan Dennison, National Association of Uniformed Services
- Cynthia Young, VA Medical Center
- Sharon Barton, VA Medical Center
- Anthony Kyle, VA Medical Center (STAR program)
- John Milliken, Fleet Reserve Association
- Thomas Richard, Legion of Valor

Items included in the Agenda Packet

Agenda (Agenda Item II)

Presentations (Agenda IV)

- Summary of Board of Veterans Services EO29 Recommendations
- Compact with Virginia's Veterans FY12 Report
- 2013 Executive Budget Document VAHS and DVS

Reports (Agenda Item V)

- Board of Veterans Services Report
- Veterans Services Foundation Report
- Virginia Military Advisory Council Report
- Department of Veterans Services Report

Opening and Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Don Kaiserman called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and asked Mr. Stu Williams to lead the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call of VSOs and Quorum Determination

The roll was called, and 21 of the 23 Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs) represented on the JLC were recorded as being represented and a quorum was determined. Thad Jones, the Chairman of the Board of Veterans Services, Mr. Jack Hilgers, representing the Veterans Services Foundation, and Paul Galanti, the Commissioner of Veterans Services, were recorded as present.

Introductions of Guests

Chair Kaiserman asked that guests and staff introduce themselves. Their names and organizations are recorded above. Chair Kaiserman welcomed them to the meeting.

Mr. Richard Rinaldo noted that Mr. Thomas Richard is a past National Commander for the Legion of Valor and a Navy Cross recipient.

Commissioner Paul Galanti stated that the McGuire VA Medical Center's Polytrauma Rehabilitation Center is one of five in the county designed to provide intensive rehabilitative care to veterans and servicemembers who experience severe injuries. He introduced Ms. Cynthia Young and Ms. Sharon Barton who work at the Center. He also introduced Mr. Anthony Kyle who is a patient and is very interested in politics, noting that he would like to run for office one day.

Opening remarks

Chair Kaiserman explained that today's Council meeting is a very busy meeting and asked the speakers to keep their presentation within the time allocated for their presentation.

Chair Kaiserman announced that DVS Director of Communications Anne Atkins was retiring at the end of the year.

Chair Kaiserman explained that all of the VSOs had submitted nominations to the Governor for appointment or reappointment to the JLC, and that after the Governor has appointed primary JLC representatives then an individual from his/her VSO may be designated to serve as an alternate.

Approval of the agenda

Chair Kaiserman asked for a **motion** to approve the agenda (<u>Attachment 1</u>) as presented. Mr. Pete Fairchild made a **motion**, **seconded** by Mr. Abe Zino. The agenda was approved **unanimously.**

Approve July 11, 2012 Meeting Minutes

Chair Kaiserman stated that the minutes from the July 11, 2012 meetings had been distributed electronically and asked for a **motion** to approve the minutes. Mr. David Coffield made a

motion, seconded by Mr. Brett Reistad. The July 11, 2012 minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

Chair Kaiserman thanked the Council for their participation and support over the years, noting that the JLC has been very successful with the General Assembly.

Presentations

<u>Virginia Values Veterans (V3) employment initiative</u>

Mr. Steven Combs introduced Mr. Joe Barto, President of TMG, Inc. Mr. Combs noted that former Deputy Commissioner Bill Janis and Mr. Barto had spoken to the Council at the July 11 JLC meeting, shortly after DVS and TMG had launched the Virginia Values Veterans (V3) imitative. Mr. Combs said that the program is now six months down the road, and that Mr. Barto would discuss the success the program has achieved.

Mr. Barto thanked Commissioner Galanti and the Council for inviting him to the meeting. He reviewed the goal of the V3 program, which is to help Virginia companies re-capitalize their workforce. He explained that since June TMG has held four conferences, trained 336 Virginia employers, certified 34 employers at the "Bronze" level, and secured pledges from employers to hire 3,023 veterans in the next year. He noted that of these 3,023 jobs, 422 have been hired to date.

Mr. Barto asked the Council to help spread the word for this program and to advocate for increased funding. Mr. Combs stated that the Governor's proposed budget includes \$150,000 for next year V3 expenses. Mr. Barto asked the Council to members to ask their VSOs to host informational events about the V3 program. He also noted that TMG has partnered with the Veterans Services Foundation (VSF) so that funds may be donated to support the V3 program.

Vice-Chair Thomas Moran stated that he attended the last V3 conference in Virginia Beach and was very impressed.

Chair Kaiserman thanked Mr. Barto for his presentation and the progress that is being made with the V3 program.

Board of Veterans Services 2012 EO29 recommendations to Governor McDonnell

Mr. Thad Jones stated that the last BVS meeting was held on July 18, and that at the meeting the Board adopted six Executive Order 29 (EO29) recommendations (*see Attachment 2*):

- 1. Institutionalize the Virginia Values Veterans (V3) program.
- 2. Enhance communications and outreach to Virginia veterans.
- 3. Improve training of DVS claims agents.
- 4. Ensure that state veterans cemeteries have the financial resources necessary
- 5. Work to have a Senior Assistant Attorney General assigned to DVS full-time.
- 6. Create a resource directory of non-DVS claims agents.

Mr. Jones requested that the JLC endorse and support the BVS EO29 recommendations.

Chair Kaiserman asked for a **motion** to endorse and support the six BVS EO29 recommendations. Mr. George Corbett made a **motion**, **seconded** by Mr. Bruce Brown. The six BVS EO29 recommendations were accepted by **unanimous consent**.

Compact with Virginia's Veterans

Mr. Jack Hilgers addressed the Council and discussed the Compact with Virginia's Veterans. He referenced the letter from Commissioner Galanti to the Council regarding the DVS FY12 Report on the Compact (*see Attachment 3*). Mr. Hilgers explained that a compact is an agreement for the mutual benefit between an individual group and community as a whole or between governments and can be as formal or un-formal as any one desire to make it. He said that when Governor McDonnell was campaigning to be Governor, he stated that one of his first objectives was to establish and implement a Compact with Virginia's Veterans to make Virginia the most Veterans Friendly State.

Mr. Hilgers stated that it would be appropriate for the JLC to ratify the DVS FY12 report as submitted by the Commissioner.

Chair Kaiserman asked for a **motion** to approve the DVS FY12 report on the Compact with Virginia's Veterans. Mr. Coffield made a **motion**, **seconded** by Mr. Bruce Brown. The report was approved by **unanimous consent**.

Housing Our Military and Elderly Disabled

Chair Kaiserman introduced Mr. Ed Brenner, Housing Our Military and Elderly Disabled (H.O.M.E.D.) project. Literature on the H.O.M.E.D Project was distributed. Mr. Brenner said he would stay throughout the meeting to answer any questions.

Mr. Brenner stated that he is with Homes for Hearts, Inc. and created the H.O.M.E.D. project. He explained that by profession he is a builder and was approached by the founding president of the project. Their first discussion was about affordable housing, military and disabled housing. Mr. Brenner stated that our country taps our construction companies in cases of natural disasters but the country has not looked to tap the construction agency to aid our veterans who protect and defend our country. Mr. Brenner reached out to manufacturers, distributors, vendors and trade organizations with this initiative. The response has been overwhelming. He then explained the H.O.M.E.D. project and how it can help provide affordable housing to the homeless and physical disable.

Chair Kaiserman said he is very impressed with this project and believes that this project will help many veterans. He asked the Council to please review the material distributed.

Chair Kaiserman called for a break at 10:43 am. Chair Kaiserman called the meeting back to order at 10:50 am.

Reports

Board of Veterans Services

Board of Veterans Services (BVS) Chairman Thad Jones delivered the BVS report (<u>Attachment 4</u>). Mr. Jones thanked the Council for adopting the BVS's six recommendations. He also stated that BVS held their elections at the July 18, 2012 meeting and he was re-elected as the BVS Chairman and Delegate Christopher Stolle was elected the Vice Chairman. Mr. Jones invited everyone to attend the next BVS meeting on January 7, 2013.

Chair Kaiserman thanked Mr. Jones for his report.

Veterans Services Foundation

Mr. Hilgers delivered the VSF Board of Trustees report (<u>Attachment 5</u>). He stated that Mr. David Holt was unable to attend. He noted that three new members have been appointed to the VSF: Mr. Brad Antle, Mr. James Schenck and Mr. Frank Finelli.

Mr. Hilgers stated that VSF received over \$182,000 in donations to date in FY13, of which approximately \$179,000 is for the Virginia Wounded Warrior Program (VWWP).

The next VSF meeting will be on Wednesday, March 6, 2013 at the Virginia War Memorial.

Chair Kaiserman thanked Mr. Hilgers for the VSF reports.

Virginia Military Advisory Council

Mr. Thomas Moran said he was unable to attend the last Virginia Military Advisory Council meeting and therefore did not have a report.

Overview of Governor McDonnell's proposed budget

Mr. Steven Combs gave the Council an overview of Governor McDonnell's proposed budget.

Department of Veterans Services

Commissioner Paul Galanti introduced Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security and Veterans Affairs Jim Hopper. Deputy Secretary Hopper stated that Secretary of Homeland Security and Veterans Affairs Terrie Suit asked him to address the Council and ask for their advice on Virginia Veterans ID Card issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles. Deputy Hopper stated that the Virginia National Guard has asked that its members be eligible to receive the card. He noted that the Commonwealth has adopted the federal definition of veteran, which defines a veteran as someone who has served a minimum of 24 months of continuous active duty or successful completed their active duty service time. He explained that there is a difference between active duty and active duty for training. Deputy Secretary Hopper respectfully requested the Council's consensus on what they think of this request.

Chair Kaiserman asked the Council if there are any questions or comments. Mr. Rich Rinaldo stated that he has a copy of the definition of a veteran which only states 90 days of service and wanted to know if it would be better to change this definition then what the Deputy Secretary is requesting. Deputy Secretary Hopper stated that the definition that Mr. Rinaldo is referring to is

for the purpose of a VA Home loans. Deputy Secretary Hopper explained that there can be 54 different definitions from 54 different states or for different state benefits purposes, but that Virginia had adopted the Federal definition.

Ms. Jenny Holbert asked if National Guard members are issued a Common Access Card (CAC). Deputy Secretary Hoppers stated that they are issued a CAC but there are some issues with merchants accepting these as a way for the veterans to be identified as a veteran. He noted that DMV created the Virginia Veterans ID Card primarily for Virginia veterans who do not have a CAC or other military ID card, so that they may use the Virginia Veterans ID Card as proof of veterans status.

Mr. Bruce Steeley suggested that this issue be tabled so that the JLC members could discuss the issue with their organizations. Chair Kaiserman agreed with tabling this issue.

Vice Chair Chip Moran asked what impact there would be on DMV if the words "National Guard" were added to the card. Deputy Secretary Hopper stated that he understands that DMV has 50,000 to 60,000 blank Virginia Veteran ID cards stockpiled and ready for use. The cards have the words "US Armed Forces" on them and may not be altered to add the words "National Guard." An additional block will need to be added to the card for the National Guard.

Mr. Steeley made a **motion** to table the request to add the National Guard to the Virginia Veterans ID card. Mr. David Coffield **seconded** the **motion**. The request to add the National Guard to the Virginia Veterans ID card was tabled by **unanimous consent** to the next JLC meeting.

Deputy Secretary Hopper encouraged the Council to go to Military.com where there are a series of articles on merchants who offer military and veteran discounts.

Commissioner Galanti stated that the request by the National Guard will be tabled to the next JLC meeting and that a point paper will be issued stating the pros and cons.

Commissioner Galanti then briefly reviewed the DVS report with the Council (see Attachment 6), giving highlights of operations by each DVS section.

Mr. Rich Rinaldo stated that he keeps track of the colleges listed in the Military Times of the best colleges for veterans, and commented that Virginia is not on this list. Mr. Rinaldo would like to see Virginia listed. Commissioner Galanti commented that Virginia is listed as number four.

Mr. Allan McCroskey said he had noted that the DVS report stated that after the completion of the projects to pre-install outer burial containers at the Amelia and Suffolk cemeteries, most veterans would be provided a burial container at no charge to veterans or their families. Mr. McCroskey asked for an explanation of what "most veterans" means. Mr. Combs explained that the projects to pre-install outer burial containers began this month at the Amelia cemetery and would begin next month at the Suffolk cemetery. He noted that the projects were funded through federal grants - \$1.7 million for Amelia and \$3.3 million for Suffolk. Mr. Combs explained that

after the new garden sections opened, first burials would be in one of the pre-installed double-depth outer burial containers in the new garden, and would be at no charge. Mr. Combs said that there would continue to be some second burials in the current garden sections, and that, because a second vault was needed, the veteran or family would have to continue to purchase vaults for second burials in the current garden sections. Mr. Combs explained that the federal grant only covered the installation of new pre-installed outer burial containers. He also noted that the new, pre-installed outer burials containers fit only standard-sized caskets. If a veteran required a larger casket they will have to purchase a larger outer burial container.

Mr. Harold Barton asked about the development of the Real Estate Tax rules and procedures that Deputy Commissioner Janis was working on and wanted an update to when these would be forward to the jurisdictions. Ms. Norwood stated that they are almost completed and then will be sent out in early 2013.

Virginia War Memorial

Jon Hatfield, Executive Director for the Virginia War Memorial (VWM), briefly addressed the Council, covering the following topics:

- The VWM became a division of the DVS on July 1, 2012.
- Three people attending the JLC meeting today also serve on the Virginia War Memorial Board: Mr. Thad Jones of the BVS, Chair Kaiserman, and Commissioner Galanti.
- The VWM has held over 30 educational events and that there were over 50,000 visitors to the Memorial in 2012.
- The Department of General Services (DGS) has sought an increase to the Memorial's rent because of the unique requirements of maintaining the Memorial;
- VWM brochures are now located at rest stops in Virginia
- The VWM will be pictured on the front of the Discovery Map that is used in tourist functions all over the state.
- Over the last couple of months the Richmond Times-Dispatch has featured an article about the VWM and a Virginia veteran at no cost to the VWM.
- The 2013 Events Calendar, including an invitation for Council members and others from their organizations to attend the Memorial Day or Veterans Day events.
- The VWM is planning a ten-day European trip for 2014

Commissioner Galanti presented Mr. Hatfield with a framed copy of the Richmond Times-Dispatch article on the VWM. Commissioner Galanti also stated that the VWM WWII staff car that was restored has been featured in several Christmas Parades this month.

New Business

Approve 2013 Meeting Schedule

Chair Kaiserman proposed a meeting schedule for 2013, as follows (also see Attachment 7):

- Thursday, January 10, JLC Conference at the General Assembly
- Wednesday, March 20
- Wednesday, May 22

- Wednesday, July 17
- Wednesday, October 16
- Wednesday, December 18

Chair Kaiserman asked for a **motion** to approve the 2013 Meeting Schedule as presented. Mr. Jim Clem made a **motion**, **seconded** by Mr. Bruce Brown. The 2013 Meeting Schedule was approved by **unanimous consent**.

Chair Kaiserman called for a lunch break at 12:05 pm. Chair Kaiserman called the meeting back to order at 12:45 pm.

Approve 2013 JLC Action Plan

Chair Kaiserman presented the proposed 2013 JLC Action Plan (*see Attachment 8*) and asked the Council members to take a few minutes to review it.

Chair Kaiserman pointed out that the Council members should be contacted soon, if they haven't been already, regarding appointments to the JLC. Mr. Combs recognized Mr. Bob Huffman and noted that he was attending the JLC meeting as a representative of the Virginia National Guard Enlisted Association, which has applied to be represented on the JLC. Mr. Combs said that this would be the 24th organization currently represented on the JLC. Mr. Combs noted that Mr. Huffman was the former Command Sergeant Major of the Virginia National Guard and was now the head of the National Guard's funeral honors program.

Chair Kaiserman asked for a **motion** to approve the 2013 Action Plan as presented. Mr. Jim Clem made a **motion**, **seconded** by Mr. Abe Zino. The 2013 Action Plan was approved by **unanimous consent**.

Approve JLC Appointed Officers for 2012-2013

Chair Kaiserman asked Mr. Combs to review list of JLC Officers appointed by the Chair for 2012-2013. A list of those officers is below (*also see Attachment 9*). Mr. Combs noted that the JLC Constitution and Bylaws charges the Chair with appointing officers, subject to the approval of the members.

- Legislative Officer/Chair of the Legislative Operations Committee: Brett Reistad
- Assistant Legislative Officer/Chair of the Legislative Procedures Committee: Abe Zino
- Chair of the Constitution & By-Laws Committee: Pete Fairchild
- JLC Representing to the Virginia Military Advisory Council: Chip Moran
- Chaplin: George Corbett

Chair Kaiserman asked each individual if they would accept these positions. Each one agreed to do so.

Chair Kaiserman asked for a **motion** to approve the JLC Appointed Officers for 2012-2013. Mr. Jim Clem made a **motion**, **seconded** by Mr. Abe Zino. The JLC Appointed Officers for 2012-2013 were approved by **unanimous consent**.

Prepare for JLC Conference at the General Assembly

Mr. Hilgers reviewed the JLC General Assembly Conference Schedule and Coordinating Instructions, noting that he would update the schedule as needed. Mr. Hilgers explained that there are only 35 spaces in the 5 East Conference Room and that it's possible that not everyone will be able to fit in the room if more than 35 people attend. He said that Council members can use their nametags with their organization for identification until DVS can get nametags for the Council.

Mr. Pete Fairchild noted that it is not always possible to speak directly with a Delegate or Senator during the office visit part of the Conference, and that instead the JLC member will meet with the legislative assistant. He noted that some assistants ask to see the JLC objectives in writing. Mr. Fairchild said he refers them to the DVS website but prefers to hand the assistant the position papers.

Chair Kaiserman said that the best time to visit may Delegates and Senators was prior to the General Assembly session.

Open discussion

Mr. Rinaldo asked about veteran and military license plates provided by DMV and the procedure to obtain the plates and pricing. He noted that some are provided at no charge while others have a charge. He said he would like to start the process to make all of these plates free of charge. This initiative could possibly be an objective for the JLC.

Mr. Rinaldo then discussed the Stolen Valor Act and explained that this was thrown out by the Supreme Court due to Freedom of Speech. He said that a new Stolen Valor Act was being considered in Congress but that state laws vary from state to state. Vice Chair Moran suggested that the Council wait and see what the Federal Government does with the Act before taking any state action.

Mr. Jim Clem asked about the Lottery initiative. Chair Kaiserman explained that had been a past JLC initiative and could be considered again in the future.

Mr. Abe Zino stated that he attended the Wreath Across America Ceremony at the Quantico National Cemetery on December 15 and reported that a lot of people were in attendance. Mr. McCroskey stated that he attended the ceremony at the Albert G. Horton, Jr. Memorial Veterans Cemetery and about 2,000 people were in attendance.

Public Comment

Mr. Al Pianalto stated that the Virginia General Assembly website has been updated and redesigned. He noted that there will be new processes in the 2013 General Assembly related to filing bills and requesting co-patrons. Mr. Pianalto stated that the best way to advocate for issues in is sub-committees.

Commissioner Galanti presented Ms. Jenny Holbert with a plaque for her term as Chair of the JLC and thanked her for her service. Ms. Holbert stated that she enjoyed her time on the JLC.

Closing remarks

Chair Kaiserman thanked the DVS staff for everything they do and the help they provide to help make the JLC successful.

Chair Kaiserman thanked the American Legion for allowing them to use their facility for the JLC meetings.

Chair Kaiserman thanked the JLC for all that they do and wished them a Happy Holiday.

Adjournment
There being no further business, Chair Kaiserman adjourned the meeting at 1:38 p.m.

Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations American Legion Building 1708 Commonwealth Avenue, Richmond December 19, 2012 10:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

AGENDA

- I. Opening and Pledge of Allegiance Don Kaiserman, JLC Chairman (10:00 10:05)
- II. Roll call of VSOs, quorum determination, approval of agenda and introduction of guests *Don Kaiserman*, *JLC Chairman* (10:05 10:10)
- III. Approve July 11, 2012 meeting minutes *Don Kaiserman*, *JLC Chairman* (10:10 10:15)
- IV. Opening remarks Don Kaiserman, JLC Chairman (10:15 10:20)
- V. Presentations (10:20 11:10)
 - a. Virginia Values Veterans (V3) Program Steven Combs, Director of Policy & Planning and Joe Barto, President, TMG, Inc. (15 minutes)
 - b. Board of Veterans Services 2012 EO29 recommendations to Governor McDonnell *Thad Jones, BVS Chairman* (10 minutes)
 - c. Compact with Virginia's Veterans *Jack Hilgers, Development Director* (10 minutes)
 - d. Overview of Governor McDonnell's proposed budget *Steven Combs, Director of Policy & Planning* (15 minutes)
- VI. Reports (11:10 11:45)
 - a. Board of Veterans Services Thad Jones, BVS Chairman (5 minutes)
 - b. Veterans Services Foundation *David Holt, VSF Chairman* (5 minutes)
 - c. Virginia Military Advisory Council *Chip Moran, JLC Representative* (5 minutes)
 - d. Department of Veterans Services *Paul Galanti*, *Commissioner* (20 minutes)
 - i. Virginia War Memorial Jon Hatfield, Virginia War Memorial Executive Director

Lunch (11:45 - 12:35)

- VII. New business (12:35 1:10)
 - a. Approve 2013 Meeting Schedule *Don Kaiserman, JLC Chairman* (5 minutes)
 - b. Approve 2013 Action Plan *Don Kaiserman, JLC Chairman* (5 minutes)

- c. Approve JLC Appointed Officers for 2012-2013 *Don Kaiserman*, *JLC Chairman* (5 minutes)
- d. Prepare for JLC Conference at the General Assembly *Jack Hilgers*, *Development Director* (10 minutes)
- e. Open discussion Don Kaiserman, JLC Chairman (10 minutes)
- VIII. Public comment period (1:10 1:20)
 - IX. Closing remarks *Don Kaiserman*, *JLC Chairman* (1:20 1:30)
 - X. Adjourn (1:30)

BOARD OF VETERANS SERVICES Summary of 2012-2013 Executive Order 29 (EO29) Recommendations Adopted July 18, 2012

- 1. Institutionalize the Virginia Values Veterans (V3) Program through a change to the Code of Virginia or an Executive Order.
- 2. Enhance communications and outreach to Virginia veterans by:
 - a. Appropriating \$150,000 in FY14 (GF one time) to develop and deploy a "Tele-Vet" system to reach Virginia veterans who do not own or have ready access to a computer. Appropriate \$25,000 (GF)per fiscal year in FY15 and beyond for system operation;
 - b. Appropriate \$20,000 (GF) annually for a wage employee to better engage Virginia veterans through social media, such as Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube and podcasts.
- 3. Improve training of DVS claims agents by appropriating \$30,000 (GF) per fiscal year so that 10 claims agents per year may attend national training offered by the American Legion and 10 agents per year may attend national training offered by the VFW. A mixture of new and experienced agents would be sent to the training.
- 4. Ensure that state veterans cemeteries have the financial resources necessary for essential maintenance reserve and equipment replacement requirements by:
 - a. Utilizing the funds generated through the increase in the federal burial reimbursement rate to fund the NGF portion of the maintenance reserve and equipment replacement requirements;
 - Maintaining the current charges for burial vaults for veterans and spouses and the burial fee for spouses, subject to a bi-annual review by the Board of Veterans Services.
- 5. Work with the Attorney General to have a Senior Assistant Attorney General assigned to DVS on a full-time basis.
- 6. Partner with Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs) to create a resource directory of non-DVS claims agents, then share this information with members of the General Assembly.



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Veterans Services

Paul E. Galanti Commissioner Telephone: (804) 786-0286 Fax: (804) 786-0302

December 12, 2012

MEMORANDUM

FOR: Members, Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations (JLC)

FROM: Commissioner Paul E. Galanti

SUBJ: Compact with Virginia's Veterans

Section 2.2-2004 of the Code of Virginia requires that I establish a Compact with Virginia's Veterans and requires that I annually report the progress of veterans services established in the compact. The Code further states that the compact shall be established in conjunction with the Board of Veterans Services (BVS) and supported by the JLC.

Attached you will find the annual report setting forth: (1) the long-range goals in support of the compact; (2) progress that has been made in FY12; and (3) FY13 JLC and BVS objectives in support of the compact. I ask that you review it before the JLC meeting on December 19, 2012.

The JLC and BVS have been instrumental in developing the issues needed to annually update the compact. The ratification of the attached report is an important step in the establishment and implementation process.

I hope it will be the pleasure of the JLC members to ratify the report at the JLC meeting on December 19, 2012.

Compact with Virginia's Veterans

Department of Veterans Services Fiscal Year 2012 Report December 1, 2012

The Department of Veterans Services overarching goal is to make Virginia the most veteran-friendly state in the Nation.

Virginia's veterans have the non-partisan support of both Governor McDonnell and the General Assembly. The *Code of Virginia* requires the Commissioner of the Department of Veterans Services (DVS), in conjunction with the Board of Veterans Services (BVS) and the Joint Leadership Council (JLC) of Veterans Service Organizations, to establish and implement a Compact with Virginia's Veterans.

Governor McDonnell's Executive Order 29 provides the framework for the compact between the Government of the Commonwealth and its veterans. This framework, which supports veterans and their families, is exercised through: (1) the BVS for individual veterans services; (2) the JLC for veterans service organizations; and (3) meetings and daily individual contact responding to each veteran's needs. The Executive Order provides directives for serving Virginia's veterans in the areas of education, health care, social services including homelessness, employment, transportation, claims processing, and enabling legislation when required.

Executive Order 29's framework and directives create a roadmap for DVS and the agency's partners to follow in order to fulfill the promise to make the Commonwealth the most veteranfriendly state in the Nation.

LONG-RANGE GOALS IN SUPPORT OF THE COMPACT

The following long-range goals were established by the BVS and JLC, representing Virginia's veterans and their families, in conjunction with DVS:

- Ensure all eligible veterans receive disability benefits in a timely manner.
- Provide veterans care centers for rehabilitation and domiciliary and long-term care.
- Ensure veterans have access to a network of community-based services designed to help veterans and their families overcome the challenges of stress-related and traumatic brain injuries and rehabilitative needs that result from military service.
- Reduce the number of homeless veterans.

- Afford Virginia's veterans and their spouses and eligible dependents a final resting place at state veterans cemeteries that meet national shrine standards.
- Ensure veterans and their dependents have approved educational programs through which they may receive their educational benefits.
- In conjunction with other state agencies, provide a veteran acquisition and retention employment training and certification program to reduce veterans unemployment.
- Enshrine patriotic Virginians who rendered faithful service and sacrifice in the cause of freedom and liberty for the Commonwealth and the nation in time of war and honor all of Virginia's veterans by preserving their history, educating the public, and inspiring patriotism in all Virginians.
- Coordinate with other state agencies to afford Virginia's veterans business, employment, transportation, and other appropriate opportunities through technology advances, workforce development, outreach, quality of life enhancement, and other services for veterans and their families.

FY12 OBJECTIVES IN SUPPORT OF THE COMPACT

The following objectives were established for FY12 by the BVS and JLC in conjunction with DVS:

Priority #1: Provide a simple, ready means of identification of veterans status for Virginia's veterans by creating a Virginia Veterans Identification Card.

Status: The Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles agreed to establish Veterans Identification Cards as part of their identification card program and the first cards were issued on Memorial Day, 2012.

Priority #2: Facilitate the honorable burial of the unclaimed cremated remains (cremains) of Virginia veterans in a state veterans cemetery by requiring funeral homes to provide the names of unclaimed cremains to DVS. DVS will screen the names to determine eligibility for burial in a state veterans cemetery.

Status: Governor McDonnell and the 2012 General Assembly approved legislation to facilitate the honorable burial of unclaimed veterans cremains.

Priority #3: Improve delivery of benefit services to Virginia veterans by changing the ratio of DVS claims agents to veterans to one claims agent for every 23,000 veterans.

Status: Governor McDonnell and the 2012 General Assembly approved the change in ratio and added two claims agent positions and their funding.

GOVERNOR McDONNELL'S BUDGET AND LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES – FY12

Governor McDonnell's budget and legislative initiatives for the 2012 General Assembly supported the implementation of the Compact with Virginia's veterans.

Governor McDonnell's budget initiatives for the 2012 General Assembly included:

- \$128,068 in General Funds to fill two vacant unfunded positions permitting DVS to partner with the Department of Medical Assistance Services to identify veterans receiving Medicaid benefits. DVS is to work with these veterans to determine if they are eligible for disability and compensation benefits and for medical care through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.
- \$127,068 in General Funds and two positions for additional DVS claims agents to help improve services by adding the capability to increase the number of benefits claims filed commensurate with the increase in the ratio of claims agents to veterans provided by legislation.
- \$197,018 in General Funds and positions for two Homeless Veterans Coordinators for DVS to help build local coalitions and continuums of care to provide veterans access to available resources, including housing vouchers, employment support, and social services. This initiative supported the recommendations of the Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations (JLC).
- Increases DVS Educational Services federally funded staffing by two positions to perform new federal compliance surveys under the Post-9/11 GI Bill Improvement Act.
- \$2,718,753 in Nongeneral Funds and 51 positions to staff and operate the 40-bed addition to the DVS Sitter and Barfoot Veterans Care Center projected to be completed by FY14.
- Transfers one DVS position between service areas to the Virginia Wounded Warrior Program to oversee the continued implementation of an AmeriCorps grant that assists Virginia service members, veterans, Guardsmen, Reservists, and their families in accessing mental health and rehabilitative care.

Other Legislative initiative Governor McDonnell endorsed for the 2012 General Assembly included:

Requiring DMV to consider, to the extent not inconsistent with federal law, applicants'
military training and experience in assessing their eligibility to receive a Virginia
commercial driver's license.

- Requiring the governing boards of each public institution of higher education, in accordance with guidelines developed by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, to implement policies that award academic credit to students for educational experience gained from military service.
- Extending the grace period for driver's license expiration from 90 to 180 days after the return from service outside the United States of active duty military personnel, a member of the diplomatic service, or a civilian employee of the U.S. government or a federal agency or contractor.
- Extending the grace period for replacement of plates or decals and for vehicle registration accompanying a member of the armed services after return from service outside the United States of active duty military personnel, a member of the diplomatic service, or a civilian employee of the U.S. government or a federal agency or contractor.

Implementation of Real Property Tax Exemptions for Disabled Veterans included:

- Requiring the Commissioner of the Department of Veterans Services to promulgate rules and regulations for the administration and implementation of the real property tax exemption for disabled veterans.
- Providing that the real property tax exemption for disabled veterans for property acquired after January 1, 2011, begins on the date of acquisition and that the previous owner of the property is entitled to a pro rata refund of any taxes paid for any period of the tax year coming after the date of acquisition. The bill also provides that a veteran or spouse otherwise qualified for the exemption does not lose the exemption solely because of extended stays at hospitals, nursing homes, or other convalescent facilities as long as the real property is not leased to another person.
- Providing that the real property tax exemption for veterans whose disability rating occurs after January 1, 2011, begins on the date of the rating.
- Providing that the real property tax exemption for a veteran applies when the property is held in certain trusts, including for surviving spouses.

FY13 OBJECTIVES IN SUPPORT OF THE COMPACT

JLC Priorities

JLC Priority #1: Provide for the electronic return of absentee ballot voted by overseas voters.

JLC Priority #2: Set aside land for the future Northern Virginia Veterans Care Center on the site of the state-owned Northern Virginia Training Center. The training center is scheduled to close in 2015.

JLC Priority #3: Provide a Sales and Use Tax Exemption for Veterans Service Organizations.

JLC Priority #4: Provide business incentives (tax credit) for employing veterans to fill new jobs.

JLC Priority #5: Clarify Code of Virginia section regarding In-State Tuition Eligibility for veterans.

JLC Priority #6: Ensure that the surviving spouses and dependents attending a Virginia public college or university as part of the Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Education Program have the financial resources necessary to pursue their education (stipend for room, board, books, and supplies).

BVS Priorities

BVS Priority #1: Institutionalize Virginia Value Vets (*V3*) initiative through a change to the Code of Virginia or an Executive Order.

BVS Priority #2: Appropriate funding for DVS Tele-Vet system & improved use of social media: (1) \$150,000 in FY14 (General Fund – one time) to develop and deploy a "Tele-Vet" system to reach Virginia veterans who do not own or have ready access to a computer; (2) \$25,000 (General Fund) per fiscal year in FY15 and beyond for system operation; and (3) \$20,000 (General Fund) annually for a wage employee to better engage Virginia veterans through social media, such as Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube and podcasts.

BVS Priority #3: Increase the DVS budget by \$30,000 (General Fund) per year to allow 10 DVS claims agents to attend the American Legion training and 10 agents to attend the VFW training.

BVS Priority #4: (1) Authorize use of federal funds for the Nongeneral Fund portion of the maintenance reserve and equipment replacement requirements. (2) Keep burial vault charges for veterans and spouses and the burial fee for spouses in place, subject to a bi-annual review by the BVS Cemeteries Committee.

BVS Priority #5: Assign a Senior Assistant Attorney General to the Department of Veterans Services on a full-time basis.

BVS Priority #6: DVS partner with veterans service organizations (VSOs) to create a resource directory of non-DVS claims agents and share this information with members of the General Assembly.

REPORT TO THE JOINT LEADERSHIP COUNCIL (JLC) OF VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS December 19, 2012

The Board of Veterans Services (BVS) met on July 18, 2012. At the meeting, the BVS:

- 1. Adopted six Executive Order 29 (EO29) recommendations for consideration by Governor McDonnell for the 2013 General Assembly. A summary of the recommendations is included in the agenda packet;
- 2. Voted to endorse and support the six EO29 recommendations adopted by the Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations on July 11;
- 3. Held biannual elections for Chairman and Vice Chairman. Mr. Thad Jones was reelected as BVS Chairman, while Delegate Christopher Stolle was elected Vice Chairman.

The next meeting of the Board of Veterans Services is Monday, January 7, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

Thad A. Jones Chairman

VETERANS SERVICES FOUNDATION REPORT TO

Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations December 19, 2012

The Veterans Services Foundation (VSF) Board of Trustees has held two meetings since the last JLC meeting. The meetings were on August 1 and November 7, 2012. The Development and Finance Committees met before each Board meeting. The following events occurred and actions taken at the Board meetings.

- (1) Received Board of Veterans Services Chairman's, Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations (JLC) Chairman's, the Department of Veterans Services (DVS) Commissioner's, and VSF Committee Reports and Virginia Wounded Warrior Program (VWWP) Updates;
- (2) Reviewed Foundation fundraising and fundraising events conducted during FY12 and FY13;
- (3) Approved VSF FY12 Final Quarter Financial Report and the FY13 First Quarter Report;
- (4) Approved VSF-DVS FY13 Budget;
- (5) Approved Budget modifications moving the Homeless Fund under VWWP and establishing a fund for the DVS V3 Program;
- (6) Approved Committee Appointments;
- (7) Approved a VSF logo;
- (8) Approved Board meeting dates of March 6, May 1, August 7, and November 6, 2013; and

The three new Governor's appointments have been made since the last report to the JLC. They are Mr. Brad Antle, who was a Navy surface warfare officer and now a reservist and is President and CEO of Salient Solutions. James Schenck is a West Point graduate and a former Army aviator who is President of the PenFed Realty and Title Companies. The most recent is Frank Finelli, a retired Army Lieutenant Colonel and is a Managing Director in the Carlyle Group, a global asset management firm.

As of 15 December, the Foundation has raised over \$182,000, of which almost \$179,000 is for VWWP, during FY13. Additionally, one golf tournament was conducted whose funds (about \$55,000) have not as yet been received and there are a host of other events being scheduled. Total fundraising is substantially more than double the level of last year at this time. Again, the Foundation extends it sincere congratulations to the outstanding outreach of all DVS activities to realize this significant fundraising level. It could not have been accomplished without the dedication of all DVS personnel.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for March 6, 2013, but may be changed if the General Assembly session goes beyond 23 February. Items for the next meeting may include: (1) approval of the 2nd Quarter FY13 Fund Statement; (2) approval of FY13 VSF-DVS Budget adjustments; (3) review VSF FY13 fundraising program; (4) election of a nominating committee for FY14 officers.

Respectfully submitted,

David Holt, VSF Chairman

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS SERVICES REPORT TO JOINT LEADERSHIP COUNCIL OF VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS December 19, 2012

Highlights of DVS operations:

- <u>Benefit Services</u>: assists Virginia's veterans and their dependents in obtaining benefits to which they are entitled under federal, state, and local laws
 - DVS filed 27,279 disability compensation claims. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) adjudicated 15,967 claims submitted by DVS, and approved 12,362, or approximately 77 percent. Virginia veterans received nearly \$60 million in retroactive claim awards during FY12.
 - Legislation passed by the 2012 General Assembly reduced the ratio of claims agents to veterans from 1:26,212 to 1:23,000 taking DVS from 32 to 36 claims agents. New claims have been hired in Danville, Hampton, Richmond, and Roanoke. The new agent in Richmond is currently working at the McGuire VA Medical Center, but will soon move to a new office in Henrico County.
 - O A contract was signed in October with BeneVets, Inc. to develop and deploy the BeneVets system at DVS field offices, replacing the current claims processing system known as RVD. DVS claims agents are currently being trained on operation of the new system. Parallel to this training, data is being securely transferred from RVD to BeneVets. DVS expects to begin using the new system for claims development and submission in January. DVS is also working with the VA on the VA's "Digits to Digits (D2D)" initiative to facilitate the future electronic submission of claims to the VA.
 - O DVS is working with the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) and Department of Social Services (DSS) regarding the initiative to improve access to USDVA compensation/pension and medical benefits for Virginia veterans by identifying veterans receiving Medicaid benefits and helping those who wish to do so apply for USDVA benefits and/or health care.
- <u>Veterans Education and Training</u>: approves educational programs so veterans and their dependents may receive their educational benefits
 - The DVS State Approving Agency for Veterans Education and Training (SAA) certified that more than 1,000 educational programs met G.I. Bill requirements in Federal Fiscal Year 2011 (FFY11). Over 51,000 Virginia veterans and dependents used G.I. Bill benefits in FFY11 #4 in the nation and received more than \$562M G.I. Bill benefits.
 - o SAA has assumed the school audit mission from the VA. This has significantly increased the SAA workload, but SAA is handling the new responsibility well thanks to a re-alignment of staff assignments and the hiring of new staff.

- <u>Virginia Veterans Care Centers</u>: provide long-term care and short-term rehabilitation to Virginia's veterans
 - DVS provided 134,143 patient days of care in FY12 at the Sitter & Barfoot Veterans Care Center in Richmond and the Virginia Veterans Care Center in Roanoke.
 - Design work is complete on the 40-bed addition to the Sitter & Barfoot Veterans Care Center. The state has approved the design. Construction will begin after the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA) releases the funding.
 - A study is underway to evaluate four potential sites for the Hampton Roads Veterans Care Center. The study should be completed in February.
 - Several renovation projects were completed at Virginia Veterans Care Center, including parking lot expansion and road work. The VVCC is pursuing grant funding for several energy savings projects.
- <u>Virginia Veterans Cemeteries</u>: Virginia's veterans cemeteries are shrines commemorating the personal sacrifice of those who served and those who stand ready to defend our freedom
 - o Virginia's three state veterans cemeteries performed 1,222 burials in FY12.
 - Federal grant funding has been awarded to install pre-placed outer burial containers at the Virginia Veterans Cemetery (Amelia) and the Albert G. Horton, Jr. Memorial Veterans Cemetery (Suffolk). Construction began December 17 in Amelia and will begin in January in Suffolk. DVS will be able to provide the outer burial containers at no charge to most veterans and their families a significant benefit that brings the Virginia state veterans cemeteries in line with the benefits offered at national cemeteries.
 - A large road repair and paving project is nearing completion at the Virginia Veterans Cemetery (Amelia). Only minor finishing work remains.
 - The road sign replacement/upgrade projects at all three cemeteries are complete. However, one sign to the Suffolk cemetery was knocked over by a hit and run driver and will be replaced soon.
- <u>Virginia War Memorial</u>: the Commonwealth of Virginia's monument to honor the memory of Virginia's men and women who demonstrated a willingness to serve and fight to defend our way of life from World War II to the present; and through its Education Center to serves as the Center of Excellence for the Commonwealth in education of Virginian's experience of war from the birth of our nation to the present
 - o The Virginia War Memorial became part of the DVS on July 1.
 - The number of annual visitors to the Virginia War Memorial has risen significantly in the past two years - from 19,000 in 2010 to 50,000 in 2012 - and is expected to continue to grow.
 - The Memorial's WWII Staff Car has been a smashing success, participating in Christmas parades/ceremonies in Richmond, Chesterfield, and Hanover, and at the Executive Mansion for the Capitol Tree Lighting.

- <u>Virginia Wounded Warrior Program</u>: provides behavioral health, rehabilitation services, and support to veterans, National Guard members, reservists, and their family members
 - The DVS Virginia Wounded Warrior Program served 5,283 veterans and their families in FY12.
 - o In FY12, 27 trainings were conducted for criminal justice system professionals and other professionals across the state. Approximately 479 individuals participated in the trainings. However, this number is likely underreported, as some individuals did not pre-register or sign-in.
 - An interagency team led by VWWP attended the SAMHSA Policy Academy in Alexandria September 5-7. VWWP was recognized as being a leader in supporting to military service members, veterans and their families.

• <u>DVS HQ</u>: Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner, agency-wide projects, and special initiatives

- The Virginia Values Veterans (V3) Program launched as a pilot project in June is making huge strides. The focus of the V3 program is helping employers refocus their efforts to hire, train, and retain veterans. To date, four training conferences have been held and DVS has received commitments from Virginia employers to hire over 1,700 veterans.
- o The Virginia Veterans ID Card has been a great success! As of November 1, 2012, more than 24,000 cards had been issued.

Upcoming meetings and events

- **Board of Veterans Services meeting**: January 7, 2013, 10 a.m., Virginia War Memorial, 621 S. Belvidere, Richmond.
- Virginia War Memorial Board meeting: January 8, 2013, 12 p.m., 621 S. Belvidere, Richmond.
- Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations Conference at the General Assembly: January 10, 8 a.m. 3 p.m., General Assembly Building (morning) and Capitol (afternoon).
- Sitter & Barfoot Veterans Care Center Fifth Anniversary Celebration: January 25, 2013, 1 p.m. Sitter & Barfoot Veterans Care Center, 1601 Broad Rock Blvd, Richmond.
- **Veterans Services Foundation meeting**: March 6, 2013, 10 a.m., Virginia War Memorial, 621 S. Belvidere, Richmond.

I cannot thank the Joint Leadership Council members enough for their continued support of Virginia veterans and the Department of Veterans Services.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul E. Galanti Commissioner

Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations 2013 Meeting Schedule

- Thursday, January 10: JLC Conference at the General Assembly
- Wednesday, March 20
- Wednesday, May 22
- Wednesday, July 17
- Wednesday, October 16
- Wednesday, December 18

2014

• Thursday, January 9, 2014: JLC Conference at the General Assembly

JLC 2013 Action Plan

January 10 Conference at the General Assembly

- Advocate for 2012-2013 JLC Initiatives
- Promote role of JLC, DVS, etc.

Before March 20 meeting

• New JLC member orientation

March 20 meeting

- 2013 General Assembly review
- Look ahead to 2014 General Assembly: initial review and discussion of potential 2013-2014 JLC Initiatives
- Report of the Constitution and By-Laws Review Committee (annual review)
- Review of past JLC initiatives and current status

NLT May 1

• JLC members submit potential 2013-2014 JLC Initiatives for discussion at May 22 meeting. NOTE: Must be in JLC Position Paper format

NLT May 8

- Potential 2013-2014 JLC Initiatives distributed to JLC members for review
- JLC members share potential 2012-2013 JLC Initiatives with their VSO leadership and others in their VSO to solicit feedback, concerns, additional ideas, etc.

May 22 meeting

- Continued review and discussion of potential 2013-2014 JLC Initiatives
- Appoint Nominating Committee

NLT June 26

• JLC members submit potential 2013-2014 JLC Initiatives for discussion at July 17 meeting. NOTE: Must be in JLC Position Paper format

NLT July 3

- Potential initiatives distributed to JLC members for review
- JLC members share potential 2013-2014 JLC Initiatives with their VSO leadership and others in their VSO to solicit feedback, concerns, additional ideas, etc.

July 17 meeting

- Review and discuss all proposed 2013-2014 JLC Initiatives
- Adopt and prioritize 2013-2014 JLC Initiatives
- Appoint JLC sponsors
- Elect Chair and Vice Chair

NLT August 15

- JLC Chair appoints JLC Appointed Officers (who will serve in an acting capacity until approved by the Council)
- Legislative Officer forms Legislative Operations Committee
- Legislative Operations Committee meets to finalize Position Papers and FAQ Sheets
- Distribute Position Papers and FAQ Sheets to JLC and post on JLC website
- Submit Executive Order 29 (EO29) recommendations to Governor McDonnell through DVS

September/October

• Chair and Legislative Officer meet with Governor

October 16 meeting

- Report on the meeting with the Governor
- Legislative Operations Committee recommends General Assembly Patrons for the JLC to recommend to the Governor
- Prepare for meetings with General Assembly members
- Approve JLC Appointed Officers for 2013-2014

October/November/December

- Submit recommended patrons to Governor McDonnell through DVS
- Meet with General Assembly members
- Hold legislative forums

December 18 meeting

- Review Governor's Proposed Budget
- Report on General Assembly Patrons
- Plan for 2014 Conference at the General Assembly
- Adopt 2014 meeting schedule
- Adopt 2014 Action Plan

JLC Appointed Officers: 2012-2013

- Legislative Officer/Chair of the Legislative Operations Committee: Brett Reistad
- Assistant Legislative Officer/Chair of the Legislative Procedures Committee: Abe Zino
- Chair of the Constitution & By-Laws Committee: Pete Fairchild
- Chair of the Nominating Committee: Carmen Gentile
- JLC Representative to the Virginia Military Advisory Council: Chip Moran
- Chaplain: George Corbett